

Remarks:

Objected Claims

In the above Final Office Action the Examiner objected to claims 6-8 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated such claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Canceled Claims

Claim 8 has been canceled because its elements have been incorporated into claims 1 and 2.

Rejected Claims

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-5 in view of Dhong et al. (U.S. Pat. Num. 5,343,092). Reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested with respect to the amendments provided herein.

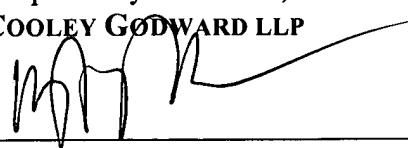
Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to reflect the “current source coupled to the gain stage” feature as claimed in claim 8. As noted above, the Examiner has indicated that claim 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim (i.e., claim 2) and any intervening claims (none). Accordingly, given the similarities between claim 1 and 2, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claims 1 and 2 and their dependent claims define allowable subject matter as both claims 1 and 2 now recite the feature previously recited in claim 8. Applicant thus respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding rejection of claims 1-5.

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the remarks herein. The undersigned would of course be available to discuss the present application with the Examiner if, in the opinion of the Examiner, such a discussion could lead to resolution of any outstanding issues.

Dated: April 3, 2006

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